## **Board of Chiropractic Examiners**

2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 260 Sacramento, California 95833-2931 Telephone (916) 263-5355 FAX (916) 263-5369 CA Relay Service TT/TDD (800) 735-2929 Consumer Complaint Hotline (866) 543-1311 www.chiro.ca.gov



## Child & Spousal Support Law May Affect Applicants for Licensure and License Renewal

Current law mandates that applicants for chiropractic licenses or chiropractors not in compliance with an order for spousal or child support may not be eligible for the issuance or renewal of his or her chiropractic license. A support debtor is considered to be non-compliant if he or she is more than 30 days in arrears in making payments in full for current support, in making periodic payments on a support arrearage, or in making periodic payments on a reimbursement for public assistance as set forth in a judgment or order for support.

The law mandates collection of Social Security Number (SSN) information in order to implement its provisions. It also establishes various steps in the denial and non-renewal processes, including a 60-day period for the support debtor to respond to the district attorney to obtain a review of the order for support and a judicial hearing. If there is no review or hearing, or if the review or hearing does not alter the order for support, the Board will be prohibited from issuing or renewing the license until it receives a copy of a release from the State Department of Social Services (DSS) stating that the obligation has been met. The district attorney will supply a list of support debtors to DSS.

Doctors of chiropractic and applicants for licensure who may be behind in spousal and/or child support payments are urged to deal with the problem promptly.

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